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Author(s)	MIYAMAE, Takako; KAWAMOTO, Manabu; KISHI, Takayuki; KAWAGUCHI, Yasushi; YAMANAKA, Hisashi
Journal	Pediatric Rheumatology, 12(Suppl 1):P252, 2014
URL	http://hdl.handle.net/10470/30948



POSTER PRESENTATION

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Prevalence of polymorphisms of the genes responsible for auto-inflammatory diseases among 202 patients with recurrent fever in a rheumatology institute in Japan

Takako Miyamae^{1*}, Manabu Kawamoto¹, Takayuki Kishi², Yasushi Kawaguchi¹, Hisashi Yamanaka¹

From 21st European Pediatric Rheumatology (PReS) Congress
Belgrade, Serbia. 17-21 September 2014

Introduction

Auto-inflammatory syndromes are defined as conditions caused by an exaggerated innate immune system response, resulting in episodes of spontaneous inflammation affecting multiple organs. The prototypical auto-inflammatory disorders are associated with periodic febrile episodes. *Auto-inflammatory syndromes* now include polygenic diseases, such as Behcet's syndrome and Still's disease; however, the best characterized auto-inflammatory diseases are relatively rare, but florid conditions arising from mutations in single genes. The prevalence of each auto-inflammatory disease varies depending on ethnic background.

Objectives

To analyze the prevalence of polymorphisms of the genes responsible for auto-inflammatory diseases managed in a single rheumatology institute in Japan.

Methods

A total of 202 individuals < 40 years of age with recurrent febrile episodes were enrolled in this study. Recurrent fever was defined as > 2 episodes of fever > 38.5 degrees Celsius lasting > 3 days in a year. Infections, autoimmune disorders, and malignancies were excluded as causes of fever prior to enrollment. Genomic DNA was isolated from the patients' peripheral blood and a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) was used to amplify the indicated exons of 10 genes [MEFV (exons 1-10), TNFRSF1A (exons 2-4), MVK (exons 9-11), NLRP3 (exon 3), NOD2

(exon 4), LI1RN (exons 2-4), IL36RN (exons 2-5), PSMB8 (exons 2, 3, and 5), NALP12 (exons 3 and 9), and PSTPIP1 (exons 10 and 11)], which have been reported as the genes responsible for auto-inflammatory diseases. After cleaning the PCR products, cycle sequencing was carried out using the Big Dye[®] Terminator v3.1 kit and analyzed with an ABI 3130xl Prism Genetic Analyzer. For the most frequently reported 4 genes, genetic polymorphisms within MEFV (exons 1-10), TNFRSF1A (exons 2-4), MVK (exons 9-11), and NLRP3 (exon 3) were examined. With respect to the other 6 genes, the existence of polymorphisms was also determined within NOD2 (from L248R to P727L), LI1RN (from N52KfsX25 to C91F), IL36RN (from R10X to G141Mfs*29), PSMB8 (from T75M to G201V), NALP12 (from T260M to F402L and R1016X), and PSTPIP1 (from A230T to E277D), with reference to the INFEVERS database, an evolving mutation database for auto-inflammatory syndromes (<http://fmf.igh.cnrs.fr/ISSAID/infevers/index.php>).

Results

Gene polymorphisms in the targeted genes were identified in 116 of the 202 patients (57%) based on INFEVERS. One hundred four of the 116 polymorphisms (90.0%) were associated with MEFV genes. Other polymorphisms were identified in TNFRSF1A (n=7), NLRP3 (n=5), NOD2 (n=4), MVK (n=2), and PSTPIP1 (n=1).

Conclusion

Polymorphisms in MEFV were most frequently identified among Japanese patients with recurrent fevers.

¹Institute of Rheumatology, Tokyo Women's Medical University, Tokyo, Japan
Full list of author information is available at the end of the article

Disclosure of interest

None declared.

Authors' details

¹Institute of Rheumatology, Tokyo Women's Medical University, Tokyo, Japan.

²Department of Pediatrics, Tokyo Women's Medical University, Tokyo, Japan.

Published: 17 September 2014

doi:10.1186/1546-0096-12-S1-P252

Cite this article as: Miyamae *et al.*: Prevalence of polymorphisms of the genes responsible for auto-inflammatory diseases among 202 patients with recurrent fever in a rheumatology institute in Japan. *Pediatric Rheumatology* 2014 **12**(Suppl 1):P252.

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